

Capitulum XII - Miles Romanus

Dative of Possession

The Dative is used with *esse* and similar words to denote Possession.

Mārcō ūna soror est. Marcus has a sister.

Iūliae duo frātrēs sunt. Julia has two brothers.

Mātrī Aemilia nōmen est. Aemilia is the mother's name.

Third Declension Adjectives

We have seen adjectives that have 1st and 2nd declensions endings (e.g., *magnus*, *-a*, *-um*). This chapter introduces adjectives with third declension endings. It is important to note that all Third Declension Adjectives are *i-stems* (they show *-ī* in the ablative singular and *-ium* in the genitive plural, and, for neuters, *-īa* in the nominative and accusative plural).

	Singular		Plural	
	Masc/Fem	Neuter	Masc/Fem	Neuter
Nom.	<i>tristis</i>	<i>triste</i>	<i>tristēs</i>	<i>tristia</i>
Gen.	<i>tristis</i>	<i>tristis</i>	<i>tristium</i>	<i>tristium</i>
Dat.	<i>tristī</i>	<i>tristī</i>	<i>tristibus</i>	<i>tristibus</i>
Acc.	<i>tristem</i>	<i>triste</i>	<i>tristēs</i>	<i>tristia</i>
Abl.	<i>tristī</i>	<i>tristī</i>	<i>tristibus</i>	<i>tristibus</i>

Here are the adjectives of the Third Declension introduced in this chapter:

tristis, *-e*, sad

gravis, *-e*, heavy, serious

fortis, *-e*, strong, brave

brevis, *-e*, short, brief

levis, *-e*, light

Comparative Adjectives

Adjectives has three degrees of comparison: positive, comparative, and superlative. The comparative degree of adjectives (the *-er* form in English), has the following forms for *all* Latin adjectives:

	Singular		Plural	
	Masc/Fem	Neuter	Masc/Fem	Neuter
Nom.	<i>-ior</i>	<i>-ius</i>	<i>-iōres</i>	<i>-iōra</i>
Gen.	<i>-iōris</i>	<i>-iōris</i>	<i>-iōrum</i>	<i>-iōrum</i>
Dat.	<i>-iōrī</i>	<i>-iōrī</i>	<i>-iōribus</i>	<i>-iōribus</i>
Acc.	<i>-iōrem</i>	<i>-ius</i>	<i>-iōres</i>	<i>-iōra</i>
Abl.	<i>-iōre</i>	<i>-iōre</i>	<i>-iōribus</i>	<i>-iōribus</i>

All adjectives in Latin show these third declension endings in the comparative degree. It is also important to note that the comparative degree is not an *i-stem* pattern.

Here is a Third Declension Adjective (*gravis, -e*) declined in the comparative degree:

	Singular		Plural	
	Masc/Fem	Neuter	Masc/Fem	Neuter
Nom.	<i>gravior</i>	<i>gravius</i>	<i>graviōres</i>	<i>graviōra</i>
Gen.	<i>graviōris</i>	<i>graviōris</i>	<i>graviōrum</i>	<i>graviōrum</i>
Dat.	<i>graviōrī</i>	<i>graviōrī</i>	<i>graviōribus</i>	<i>graviōribus</i>
Acc.	<i>graviōrem</i>	<i>gravius</i>	<i>graviōres</i>	<i>graviōra</i>
Abl.	<i>graviōre</i>	<i>graviōre</i>	<i>graviōribus</i>	<i>graviōribus</i>

Here is a First and Second Declension adjective (*longus, -a, -um*) declined in the comparative degree:

	Singular		Plural	
	Masc/Fem	Neuter	Masc/Fem	Neuter
Nom.	<i>longior</i>	<i>longius</i>	<i>longiōres</i>	<i>longiōra</i>
Gen.	<i>longiōris</i>	<i>longiōris</i>	<i>longiōrum</i>	<i>longiōrum</i>
Dat.	<i>longiōrī</i>	<i>longiōrī</i>	<i>longiōribus</i>	<i>longiōribus</i>
Acc.	<i>longiōrem</i>	<i>longius</i>	<i>longiōres</i>	<i>longiōra</i>
Abl.	<i>longiōre</i>	<i>longiōre</i>	<i>longiōribus</i>	<i>longiōribus</i>

4th Declension Nouns

This chapter introduces Fourth Declension nouns. This declension contains masculine, feminine, and neuter nouns, but the vast majority are masculine. The forms are:

	Singular	Plural
Nom.	-us	-ūs
Gen.	-ūs	-uum
Dat.	-uī	-ibus
Acc.	-um	-ūs
Abl.	-ū	-ibus

Here is the declension of *metus, -ūs*, fear:

	Singular	Plural
Nom.	<i>metus</i>	<i>metūs</i>
Gen.	<i>metūs</i>	<i>metuum</i>
Dat.	<i>metuī</i>	<i>metibus</i>
Acc.	<i>metum</i>	<i>metūs</i>
Abl.	<i>metū</i>	<i>metibus</i>

Third Declension Nouns

Here are the Third Declension Nouns presented in Chapter 12:

frāter, -tris <i>m</i> brother	pedes, -itis <i>m</i> foot-soldier
soror, -ōris <i>f</i> sister	eques, -itis <i>m</i> cavalry soldier
nōmen, -inis <i>n</i> name; clan name	pars, partis <i>f</i> part
praenōmen, -inis <i>n</i> first name	finis, finis <i>f</i> end, limit
cognōmen, -inis <i>n</i> family name	hostis, hostis <i>m</i> enemy
mīles, -itis <i>m</i> soldier	dux, ducis <i>m</i> leader

Mīlle and *Mīlia*

Latin distinguishes between the adjective “one thousand” (*mīlle*) and the noun “thousands” (*mīlia*) in a way English does not. The adjective *mīlle* will simply modify a noun, as in English:

mīlle passūs = a thousand paces

But the noun *mīlia* will govern a genitive:

sex mīlia mīlitum = six thousands of soldiers

Vocabulary

quam, than (used to express comparison)
arma, -ōrum *npl* arms, weapons
castra, -ōrum *npl* camp
arcus, -ūs *m* bow
exercitus, -ūs *m* army
passus, -ūs *m* step, pace
equitātus, -ūs *m* cavalry
impetus, -ūs *m* attack
metus, -ūs *m* fear